(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's action plan and target concerning bio-fuel production and before-hand plan of Government to address the apprehension of food crisis?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Indian approach differs from current international approaches towards biofuels. In India, biofuel production is based solely on non-food feedstocks to avoid any conflict with foodgrain production.

(c) A comprehensive National Policy on Biofuels has been approved by the Cabinet. The Policy provides an indicative road map and directions for production of biofuels from non-food feedstocks, their conversion and utilization.

Electricity from decomposition of solid waste

3495. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the survey by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICC1) regarding solid waste generated by the cities;

(b) if so, the quantum of solid waste generated in the cities due to lack of adequate treatment and disposal facilities;

(c) whether landfill gas is a natural by-product of the de-composition of solid waste in landfills and is primarily comprised of carbon dioxide and methane which can be used as a substitute for electricity generated by thermal or coal; and

(d) if so, the Central contribution thereto?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has brought out a report in August 2009, on survey of current status of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) management in 22 cities. The report indicates that 23,425 tonnes per day of solid waste out of a total of 27,018 tonnes per day generated in these 22 cities, is dumped in the landfills. This shows a lack of adequate treatment of solid waste before it's disposal.

(c) Landfill gas, which is a product of decomposition of the biodegradable fraction of solid waste in scientifically constructed landfill, can be used as a fuel for generating electricity. However, as per the provisions of Municipal Solid Waste (Handling & Management) Rules - 2000, Municipal Corporations / Urban Local Bodies are supposed to treat the biodegradable waste through composting or other state-of-the-art technologies for power generation, etc. and dump only the inert fraction of solid waste in the landfills.

(d) Ministry of Urban Development has approved solid waste management projects based on an integrated approach under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, in 40 cities,

including 15 of the 22 cities covered by the survey, at an estimated cost of Rs. 2186.14 crore. The projects include segregation at source, collection, transportation, processing & treatment and disposal of solid waste in accordance with Municipal Solid Waste (Handling & Management) Rules-2000.

Propagation of new and renewable energy sources

3496. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:
SHRI SABIR ALI:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the new initiatives of his Ministry for increased propagation and adoption of new and renewable energy sources by the masses;

(b) the targets fixed in this regard; and

(c) the subsidies being offered to the users?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) The major new initiatives taken by the Ministry in recent past for propagation and adoption of various renewable energy sources in the country are as under:

- A National Solar Mission has been approved with first phase target of 1100 MW grid-interactive and 200 MW off-grid solar power by 2013.
- Following new schemes have been introduced:
  - Generation Based Incentive for wind power projects with a capacity addition target of 4000 MW during 11th Plan period.
  - Schemes for SPV Power plants at tail-end of grid and Roof-top SPV systems for diesel abatement, with a target of 8.25 MWp for 11th Plan.
  - UNDP/GEF assisted project for large-scale promotion of Solar Water Heating systems initiative.
  - Scheme for promotion of Green Buildings with target of 35 lakhs sq.m. covered area. A National rating system 'GRIHA' has been introduced.
  - Scheme for Incentivising Banks for financing Solar Home lighting Scheme with target of 2.5 lakh systems till March 2011.
  - Scheme for demonstration of Renewable energy systems at Iconic buildings –Scheme for micro-hydel/water-mills for border areas with target of installation of 50 micro-hydel and 2000 watermills during 11th Plan.
- Focus on promotion of power generation from rice husk for rural electrification.
- Policy and Regulatory initiatives relating to renewable power: Normative guidelines for tariff setting for renewable power issued through CERC; scheme for Renewable Energy Certificates, etc.